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News Release

ICE AGENTS SEIZE 800+ POUNDS OF MARIJUANA IN CORPUS CHRISTI

One person arrested; vehicles, cash and weapons seized

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents and Nueces County Sheriff's Department deputies netted 869 pounds of marijuana, one suspect, two vehicles and one motorcycle during a March 22 drug bust and arrest.

ICE agents, Nueces County Sheriff's deputies and U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) air surveillance branch had been watching a location near Nueces County in Corpus Christi for several days, and identified Walter James Weber as the driver/owner of a motor home and custom trailer that was being used to transport marijuana.

Nueces County Sheriff's deputies stopped the vehicle Tuesday, confirmed the drug-smuggling operation, and discovered 869 pounds of marijuana hidden inside the nose of the trailer.

ICE agents and Nueces County Sheriff's deputies arrested Weber and seized the motor home, the custom trailer, an attached Honda motorcycle, \$4,400 in cash, two revolvers, one semi automatic pistol and a shotgun.

"This investigation highlights the unified enforcement efforts being used by law enforcement in the Corpus Christi area to combat drug smuggling and crime in general," said John Dennis, assistant special agent-in-charge for ICE Houston Office of Investigations, which includes Corpus Christi.

"This is a significant seizure for our area and another example of what successful cooperation can produce between local, state and federal agencies combine enforcement and investigative efforts," said Nueces County Sheriff, Larry Olivares.

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Other law enforcement agencies that assisted ICE in this investigation include: Nueces County Sheriff's Department, the Corpus Christi Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the South Texas Narcotics Task Force, and CBP's Surveillance Branch.

Walter James Weber faces federal drug charges. This investigation is ongoing.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.